

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. An outboard trolling motor deployment and control system for
3 a boat, said system comprising:

4 an outboard trolling motor assembly,
5 a deployment assembly disposed in a cooperative engagement
6 with said outboard trolling motor assembly,

7 said deployment assembly further disposed in an
8 interconnecting orientation with a hull of the boat,

9 said deployment assembly structured to facilitate positioning
10 said outboard trolling motor assembly along a substantially arcuate
11 path of travel between a stowed position and at least one
12 predetermined deployed position,

13 said predetermined deployed position at least partially
14 defined by said outboard trolling motor assembly disposed laterally
15 outward from at least one side of the boat,

16 said outboard trolling motor assembly comprising at least one
17 thrust axis, said at least one thrust axis disposed substantially
18 parallel to a longitudinal centerline of the boat, and

19 a control assembly disposed in a communicative relationship
20 with said outboard trolling motor assembly, said control assembly
21 structured to at least actuate said outboard trolling motor
22 assembly.

23 2. A system as recited in claim 1 comprising at least one power
24 supply disposed in an at least temporary energizing relation with
25 said outboard trolling motor assembly.

1 3. A system as recited in claim 2 wherein said control assembly
2 is disposed in a further communicative relationship with said at
3 least one power supply and is structured to actuate said outboard
4 trolling motor assembly by at least temporarily disposing said at
5 least one power supply into said energizing relation with said
6 outboard trolling motor assembly.

7 4. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said predetermined
8 deployed position is further defined by said outboard trolling
9 motor assembly disposed laterally outward from at least one side of
10 a stern of the boat.

11 5. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said substantially
12 arcuate path of travel is disposed in a generally vertical plane.

13 6. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said outboard trolling
14 motor assembly comprises at least one outboard trolling motor.

15 7. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said outboard trolling
16 motor assembly comprises at least one pair of outboard trolling
17 motors.

18 8. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein each of said outboard
19 trolling motors is structured to generate an amount of thrust along
20 a corresponding thrust axis, each of said thrust axes disposed
21 substantially parallel to the longitudinal centerline of the boat.

22 9. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein said predetermined
23 deployed position is further defined by each of said pair of
24 outboard trolling motors disposed laterally outward from an
25 opposite side of the boat.

1 10. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein said predetermined
2 deployed position is further defined by each of said pair of
3 outboard trolling motors disposed laterally outward a substantially
4 equal distance from an opposite side of the boat.

5 11. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein said predetermined
6 deployed position is further defined by each of said pair of
7 outboard trolling motors disposed a substantially equal depth below
8 a normal surface of the body of water.

9 12. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein each said outboard
10 trolling motor comprises a propeller interconnected thereto by a
11 drive shaft.

12 13. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein said deployment
13 assembly comprises at least one pair of positionable mounting
14 members, each of said positionable mounting members operatively
15 engaging a different one of said outboard trolling motors.

16 14. A system as recited in claim 13 wherein said deployment
17 assembly further comprises at least one pair of mounting sleeve
18 mechanisms, each of said mounting sleeve mechanisms structured to
19 interconnect a different one of said positionable mounting members
20 to the boat through a portion of the hull.

21 15. A system as recited in claim 13 wherein said deployment
22 assembly further comprises at least one pair of mounting sleeve
23 mechanisms, each of said mounting sleeve mechanisms structured to
24 movably interconnect a different one of said positionable mounting
25 members to the boat through a portion of the hull.

1 16. A system as recited in claim 15 wherein each of said mounting
2 sleeve mechanisms is further structured to rotatably interconnect
3 a different one of said positionable mounting members to the boat
4 through the portion of the hull.

5 17. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein each said mounting
6 sleeve mechanism comprises a sealing mechanism, each of said
7 sealing mechanisms structured to provide a liquid restrictive
8 interconnection between a corresponding one of said positionable
9 mounting members and the portion of the hull of the boat.

10 18. A system as recited in claim 17 wherein the portion of the
11 hull is a transom.

12 19. An outboard trolling motor deployment and control system for
13 a boat disposed in a body of water, said system comprising:

14 an outboard trolling motor assembly,

15 said outboard trolling motor assembly comprising at least one
16 pair of outboard trolling motors,

17 a deployment assembly comprising at least one pair of
18 positionable mounting members, each of said positionable mounting
19 members operatively engaging a different one of said outboard
20 trolling motors,

21 each of said positionable mounting members further disposed in
22 an interconnecting orientation with the boat via a corresponding
23 mounting sleeve mechanism,

24 said deployment assembly structured to facilitate positioning
25 each of said outboard trolling motors along a substantially arcuate

1 path of travel between a stowed position and at least one
2 predetermined deployed position,

3 said predetermined deployed position at least partially
4 defined by each of said outboard trolling motors disposed laterally
5 outward from an opposite side of the boat into a substantially
6 undisturbed portion of the body of water,

7 each of said outboard trolling motors structured to generate
8 an amount of thrust along a corresponding thrust axis, each of said
9 thrust axes disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal
10 centerline of the boat, and

11 a control assembly disposed in a communicative relationship
12 with at least said outboard trolling motors.

13 20. A system as recited in claim 19 wherein said predetermined
14 deployed position is further defined by each of said thrust axes
15 submerged in the substantially undisturbed portion of the body of
16 water and disposed substantially parallel to a normal surface of
17 the body of water.

18 21. A system as recited in claim 19 wherein said deployment
19 assembly is further structured to facilitate rotatably positioning
20 each of said outboard trolling motors along said substantially
21 arcuate path of travel between said stowed position and said
22 predetermined deployed position.

23 22. A system as recited in claim 19 wherein each of said
24 positionable mounting members comprise a positionable stop member
25 structured to facilitate disposing a corresponding one of said

1 outboard trolling motors between said stowed position and said at
2 least one predetermined deployed position.

3 23. A system as recited in claim 22 wherein each of said mounting
4 sleeve mechanisms comprise at least one deployment stop member.

5 24. A system as recited in claim 23 wherein said predetermined
6 deployed position is at least partially defined by a portion of one
7 of said positionable stop members abutting a portion of a
8 corresponding one of said at least one deployment stop member.

9 25. A system as recited in claim 22 wherein each of said mounting
10 sleeve mechanisms comprise a plurality of deployment stop members.

11 26. A system as recited in claim 25 wherein said deployment
12 assembly is further structured to facilitate positioning each of
13 said outboard trolling motors along a substantially arcuate path of
14 travel between a stowed position and each of a plurality of
15 predetermined deployed positions.

16 27. A system as recited in claim 26 wherein each of said plurality
17 of predetermined deployed positions is at least partially defined
18 by a portion of one of said positionable stop members abutting a
19 portion of a corresponding one of said plurality of deployment stop
20 members.

21 28. A system as recited in claim 22 wherein each of said mounting
22 sleeve mechanisms comprise at least one stowage stop member.

23 29. A system as recited in claim 28 wherein said stowed position
24 is at least partially defined by a portion of one of said
25 positionable stop members abutting a portion of a corresponding one

1 of said at least one stowage stop member.

2 30. A system as recited in claim 19 wherein said stowed position
3 is at least partially defined by said outboard trolling motors
4 disposed out of the body of water and positioned above a portion of
5 the hull of the boat.

6 31. A system as recited in claim 30 wherein the portion of the
7 hull is a transom.

8 32. An outboard trolling motor deployment and control system for
9 a boat disposed in a body of water, said system comprising:

10 an outboard trolling motor assembly comprising at least one
11 pair of outboard trolling motors,

12 a deployment assembly comprising at least one pair of
13 positionable mounting members, each of said positionable mounting
14 members operatively engaging a different one of said outboard
15 trolling motors,

16 said deployment assembly further disposed in an
17 interconnecting orientation with the boat,

18 said deployment assembly structured to facilitate positioning
19 each of said outboard trolling motors along a substantially arcuate
20 path of travel between a stowed position and at least one
21 predetermined deployed position,

22 said deployed position at least partially defined by each of
23 said outboard trolling motors disposed laterally outward from an
24 opposite side of the stern of the boat in a substantially
25 undisturbed portion of the body of water,

1 each of said outboard trolling motors structured to generate
2 an amount of thrust along a corresponding thrust axis, each of said
3 thrust axes disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal
4 centerline of the boat,

5 a control assembly disposed in a communicative relationship
6 with at least said outboard trolling motors,

7 at least one power supply at least temporarily disposed in an
8 energizing relation with said outboard trolling motors, and

9 said control assembly structured to at least actuate said
10 outboard trolling motors.

11 33. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
12 comprises at least one actuation switch, said actuation switch
13 structured to actuate at least one of said outboard trolling
14 motors.

15 34. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
16 comprises a plurality of actuation switches, each of said actuation
17 switches structured to actuate a corresponding one of said outboard
18 trolling motors.

19 35. A system as recited in claims 32 wherein said control assembly
20 comprises a master actuation switch, said master actuation switch
21 structured to actuate at least said pair of outboard trolling
22 motors.

23 36. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
24 comprises at least one direction switch, said direction switch
25 structured to operate at least one of said outboard trolling motors

1 in either a forward direction or a reverse direction.

2 37. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
3 comprises a plurality of direction switches, each of said direction
4 switches structured to operate a corresponding one of said outboard
5 trolling motors in either a forward direction or a reverse
6 direction.

7 38. A system as recited in claims 32 wherein said control assembly
8 comprises a master direction switch, said master direction switch
9 structured to operate at least said pair of outboard trolling
10 motors in either a forward direction or a reverse direction.

11 39. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
12 comprises at least one speed switch, said speed switch structured
13 to operate at least one of said outboard trolling motors at any one
14 of a plurality of motor speeds.

15 40. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
16 comprises a plurality of speed switches, each of said speed
17 switches structured to operate a corresponding one of said outboard
18 trolling motors at any one of a plurality of motor speeds.

19 41. A system as recited in claim 32 wherein said control assembly
20 comprises a master speed switch, said master speed switch
21 structured to operate at least said pair of outboard trolling
22 motors at any one of a plurality of motor speeds.

23 42. A system as recited in claim 32 further comprising a safety
24 switch, said safety switch structured to prevent said actuation of
25 said outboard trolling motors when said motors are not disposed in

1 said deployed position.

2 43. An outboard trolling motor deployment and control system for
3 a boat disposed in a body of water, said system comprising:

4 an outboard trolling motor assembly comprising at least one
5 pair of outboard trolling motors,

6 each of said outboard trolling motors structured to generate
7 an amount of thrust along a corresponding thrust axis, each of said
8 thrust axes disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal
9 centerline of the boat,

10 a deployment assembly comprising at least one pair of
11 positionable mounting members each operatively engaging a different
12 one of said outboard trolling motors,

13 said deployment assembly further disposed in an
14 interconnecting orientation with a transom of the boat,

15 said deployment assembly structured to facilitate rotatably
16 positioning each of said outboard trolling motors along a
17 substantially arcuate path of travel between a stowed position and
18 at least one predetermined deployed position,

19 said deployment assembly further structured to maintain each
20 of said thrust axes disposed substantially parallel with the
21 longitudinal centerline of the boat at each point along said
22 substantially arcuate path of travel,

23 said deployed position at least partially defined by each of
24 said outboard trolling motors disposed laterally outward a
25 substantially equal distance from an opposite side of the stern of

1 the boat in a substantially undisturbed portion of the body of
2 water,

3 said deployed position further defined by each of said
4 outboard trolling motors disposed a substantially equal depth below
5 a normal surface of the substantially undisturbed portion of the
6 body of water,

7 a control assembly disposed in a communicative relationship
8 with at least said outboard trolling motors,

9 at least one power supply at least temporarily disposed in an
10 energizing relation with said outboard trolling motors, and

11 said control assembly structured to at least actuate said
12 outboard trolling motors.